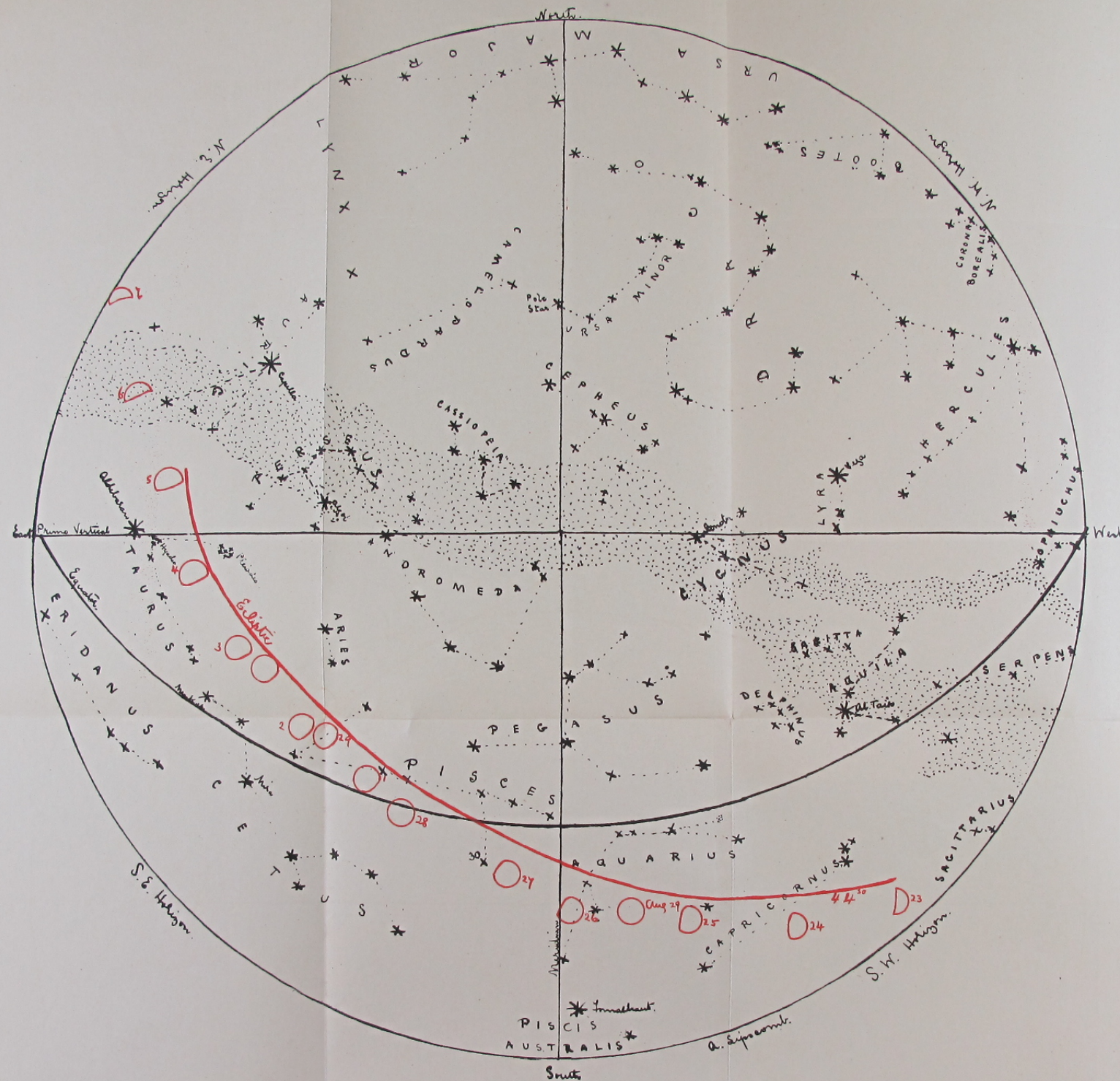


Star Map—September, 1890.



The Constellations and so-called Fixed Stars are named in black ink; the former in capital letters, the latter in small ones.
The Moon and Planets are marked in red ink.
The Moon is represented by its phases; the Planets by their symbols, thus—Jupiter ♃.

The Evening Sky—September, 1890.

By Mrs. L. C. d'A. Lipscomb.

THE SUN.

On September 23rd the Sun enters Libra, crosses the equator, and Autumn commences.

THE MOON.

Last quarter, 6th; new, 14th; first quarter, 21st.

It will have been noticed by those who have made the monthly star-maps in this magazine, or who are close observers of the evening sky, that the Moon does not rise at the same place on the horizon. For instance, the full moon of August rose 24½ degrees south of the equator, and on the 4th, 20 degrees north of it. In this month, September, the moon is on the equator, and is therefore as long on the horizon as it is beneath it. As this date almost coincides with the autumnal equinox (which occurs on September 22nd), the Sun is also twelve hours below and twelve hours above the horizon, it follows that for a few days the Moon rises at the same place, and consequently there is no darkness at all, and work of reaping can be continued without interruption. The full Moon which occurs nearest to the autumnal equinox is called the Harvest Moon.

In this month's map it can be distinctly seen how the Moon encircles the Earth once a month, and gets back to the same place in the heavens in a little more than twenty days. But the full Moon on September 28th is not at the same place as the last full Moon on August 29th, which I have marked on the map to make this explanation clearer. The reason is that the Sun has during the month moved forward in the heavens a distance of one-twelfth of the heavens, the Moon has to travel that distance before it puts up with the Sun again, and appears as full.